

# PERILOUS AUTO TRIP IN AFRICA

OFFICER OF GERMAN ARMY TELLS OF HAZARDOUS EXPERIENCE IN DARK CONTINENT.

## NEAR TO DEATH ON BRIDGE

Mozambi River Is Crossed by Means of Shaky Structure Made by the Natives of Sticks and Branches.

London. Lieut. Paul Glantz of the German army, who is crossing the east coast of Africa from Dar-es-Salaam on the east coast to Swaziland, on the west, is experiencing a formidable difficulty in the tropics. His last stage of his journey has occupied nine days. He describes the journey as follows:

Leaving Mozambique from the south end of Lake Tanganyika we reached Dar-es-Salaam some days through the Chagga mountains. There we and our outfit had to go through a horrible ordeal. We have tried to find a bridge and have been refused to cross the river. We have been refused to cross the river. We have been refused to cross the river.

We have tried to cross the river. We have been refused to cross the river. We have been refused to cross the river. We have been refused to cross the river.

At last we proceeded through the thick forest. The natives built a bridge of sticks and branches. We crossed the river. We were nearly killed. We were nearly killed.

There is a kind of bridge over the river. It is made of sticks and branches. We crossed the river. We were nearly killed. We were nearly killed.

Finally, after many attempts, we crossed the river. We were nearly killed. We were nearly killed.



Passing Over the Tattering Remnants of a Bridge.

path, the driver came the steering wheel with great steadiness. We reached the car. We were nearly killed. We were nearly killed.

We are nearly on the other side. The car is nearly on the other side. We are nearly on the other side.

The back wheels have sunk through a hole in the bridge. The front wheels are lifted upward. We are nearly on the other side.

A fresh activity seizes us. We fasten a strong rope to the front part of the car. We are nearly on the other side.

Day after day the difficulties and obstacles increase, and we nearly lose the hope of ever reaching our goal. The car, however, has worked without one breakdown since we left Abor-corn. At last we see, on the hill in front of us, the village of Kasama, the buildings of the magistrate, and the African lake corporation, appearing above the green landscape.

# IN JAIL OVER YEAR, MAN IS FORGOTTEN

NO RECORD OF HIS NAME, CRIME, COMMITMENT OR TRIAL CAN BE FOUND.

Elizabethtown, Pa.—It would seem incredible that in this age a man could be imprisoned for more than a year in the jail of this county, in this town, not knowing himself the reason or cause of his imprisonment, his identity unknown to the county officials, and no entry reliably affecting him or his alleged offense to be found anywhere in the public records, yet it is a fact this is so.

The man, a foreigner, was recently released from jail because no ground could be found for his further detention, nor indeed for his detention at any time. He might still be in prison but there had been a change of sheriff.

The new sheriff is Peter A. John, having one of his late official successors.



"What Are You in Prison For?"

When the jail minutes his attention was called for some reason to this man.

What is your name? Inquired the sheriff.

Heck Lenchack.

What are you in prison for?

I don't know.

How long have you been here?

More than a year.

The sheriff examined the jail register covering a year and longer, but could not find the name of Lenchack. He did the same with the commitment books, but with equal unsuccess. Then he questioned the prisoner more closely. Lenchack could not handle English very well, but he managed to explain that all he knew about it was that he had been walking across a field in one of the cooling plants not far from this town when two men arrested him, took him before a magistrate and then brought him to jail.

It is the sheriff's theory that Lenchack had been committed to jail under one name, that he had got on to the jail register under another name, and on the final docket of the court under still another name, and that when the name on the trial docket was called during sessions of the court there was no prisoner to answer to it.

The poor fellow was glad to get out that his expressions of gratitude, so far as he was able to make this sentiment clear, were most pathetic. A foreigner, knowing little or nothing of the habits and customs of this country, not understanding the language, homeless, friendless, knowing no one to apply to, he had got into jail for a trivial offense. There, forgotten, unable to confide in any one even if he had wished, ignorant of how to take steps to get free, he had put in more than a year of his life in a place to which he should not, perhaps, have been sent at any time.

## Stand in a Buggy and Wed.

Rochester, Pa.—John Creslip of this city and Miss Ivy Davis of Beaver, Pa., were married here the other night while standing in a buggy on the street.

The young couple met Rev. Harvey L. Grimes, who was out walking, and produced the marriage license, which the preacher read by the aid of an arc light.

There were no witnesses, and after waiting a short time Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hayes, who were out strolling, came along. They agreed to be witnesses, and while Creslip and Miss Davis stood in the buggy under the arc light Rev. Mr. Grimes performed the ceremony. Creslip and his bride then drove away.

## That's What He Said.

Jones—Is that your wife on a bicycle?

Brown—It is.

Jones—I thought you said you would never permit her to ride one.

Brown—I don't permit it; but what difference do you suppose that makes to her?

# ODD CREW HANDLES SHIP.

Mixed Talent Signed as Sailors on Bark from San Pedro.

Tacoma, Wash.—In a mixed crew which brought the four-masted British bark Howard K. Troop to Tacoma, Capt. Durkee found an amazing array of talent. On his articles he has stenographers, musicians, restaurant keepers, and, in fact, many other ancient and honorable professions and occupations represented. In looking over the men he secured at San Pedro Capt. Durkee found a collection of genius that would be hard to beat. Every kind of talent was there but the kind he wanted. The Nova Scotia master asked for sailors, and out of 14 new hands there was but one who had actual experience at sea.

During the seven weeks that the four-masted lay at San Pedro discharging she naturally lost the majority of her crew, and when the vessel was ready to sail for Tacoma in ballast it was necessary to sign 14 new men. Real sailors were scarce, but there were many willing young fellows who wanted to try for experience.

In flying ash weather the new hands were all right for sweeping down decks and lighting the binnacle, but even at that the real seamen had practically all the work to do. But when the weather was more threatening the green hands were next to useless for going aloft, furling sails, or steering "full and by." If the weather had been at all heavy, Capt. Durkee says he does not know what he would have done with his crew of novitiates, and he considers his trip up the coast remarkable under the circumstances.

# PAYS LOAN OF FIFTY YEARS AGO

Chicagoan Surprises New Jersey Man Whose Father Aided Him.

New York.—William Davis of Jersey City received a call the other day from an old man who introduced himself as James O'Leary of Chicago. Mr. O'Leary said that when he came to this country from Ireland 50 years ago Mr. Davis' father, now dead, had lent him \$25 to pay his way from Jersey City to Pittsburgh, telling him to pay it back when he could spare the money.

Mr. O'Leary said he served in the civil war, after which he drifted about the west with varying fortune until 1890, when he went to Chicago and with \$20 he had saved opened a fruit stand. From that time he prospered and he is now comparatively wealthy. Recently, he said, his conscience stricken him for not repaying the loan and he came to Jersey City to look for Mr. Davis, only to learn that he was dead, but had left a son, whom he succeeded in locating after a long search.

William Davis, after satisfying himself that it was his father who had lent the money, accepted the \$25, but declined Mr. O'Leary's offer to pay interest. Mr. O'Leary said he would see a few days in New York and then go back to Chicago.

# CANARY BIRD EGGS OF SOAP.

Wise Man of Ship Crew Admits the Joke at Last.

New York.—The library steward of the White Star liner Republic prides himself on being too wise for practical jokes, but on a recent trip his shipmates entered into a conspiracy to make him a victim and the chance came at Palermo, where the librarian bought some canaries.

The plotters placed a sugar-coated almond in the cage and the steward was delighted, thinking it an egg. This made the joke keener to keep up the fun. After leaving Palermo no more almonds were to be had, but the ship's butter shaped eggs out of soap and one each day was placed in the cage until four appeared to have been laid.

The librarian installed an electric heater in his berth to keep them at the right temperature. Looking into the nest a few mornings later he found the cock canary eating sugar and almond. His astonishment was great when he cut into the other eggs and found them of soap.

The staff and even the passengers had been waiting for the denouement. He who had always been proof against tricks finally laughed with the rest and admitted that he had "got his" at last.

# Peanut in Girl's Lungs.

Owosso, Mich.—The case of the three-year-old daughter of Paul Thiede of this city is puzzling physicians. Two months ago the little girl swallowed a peanut, which lodged in her windpipe. Her life was despaired of, as it was supposed that she would die from strangulation. Fighting constantly for breath, the child survived several hours, when her breathing suddenly became easier.

The peanut had passed on into her lungs. She has been gravely ill, but her health is gradually becoming better. An operation to remove the peanut would probably be fatal. Physicians think there is a possibility of the peanut taking sprout and beginning to grow.

# MAY SUCCEED ROOSEVELT



Secretary of War William H. Taft is at present the most prominent candidate for the Republican nomination for the presidency. Secretary Taft recently sailed for Panama at the suggestion of the president to investigate several important questions in connection with the construction of the canal and the relations between the United States and the republic of Panama. The above is the latest portrait taken of the secretary.

# RICHES NEAR THE DEAD

## AMERICANS TO OBTAIN MINERAL IN MEXICAN CATACOMBS.

Bodies Stand Upright and Have to Be Moved in Search for Wealth—Robbers Once Tortured Prospectors in Vaults.

Guanajuato, Mexico.—The famous catcombs of Guanajuato will be made to yield up their dead in order that the gold and silver which lie beneath the underground chambers may be obtained by enterprising Americans, according to plans which have just been set on foot here. It was while workmen were excavating for the foundation of the new station of the Mexican Central railroad here a short time ago that a blast uncovered a vein of gold and silver ore of great richness. Two Americans, W. S. Davis and Eliza Moore, immediately acquired title to the promising mining claim. They traced the vein from the point where it was uncovered to the catcombs and thence down the hill and through the city park, which is situated in the heart of the city.

In order to get out the ore the owners of this claim will have to conduct mining operations throughout the length of the vein. The storehouse of the dead will have to be disturbed and mining carried on in the heart of the city.

The long and narrow underground chamber in which many skeletons of the more distinguished dead are kept standing long has been one of the most gruesome sights in Mexico. These skeletons were naked until a few years ago, when the municipal authorities decided that their appearance would be improved by draping the bony forms with a semblance of clothes. The effect of clothing the mummies is to add to the gruesome spectacle rather than to diminish it. At the far end of the chamber is a great pile of human bones, taken from

the catcombs above and thrown indiscriminately together.

Many hair-raising tales are told of this chamber of standing mummies. According to one story, which now is little more than a legend, an American of San Antonio, Tex., who had been to the City of Mexico on a trading expedition during the time that Mexico was carrying on a war against the French invaders, was attacked by a band of robbers near Guanajuato. He carried a large sum of money, and this was taken from him. His captors believed that he was in some way identified with the French cause, and, in order to bring about his death through terrible torture, instead of killing him outright, they threw him into the chamber of the dead. It is related that the depositing of a body in the vault five days later led to his discovery and rescue. He was insane. His terrible experiences had been more than his mind could endure.

It is expected that a more modern way of caring for the dead of this city will soon be adopted. The rapid development of the mines and other industries of the territory immediately adjacent to the city is leading to many substantial improvements. Nearly all the mines are owned by Americans, and the new element of citizenship is having its influence upon the government of municipal affairs.

It will not surprise the slow-going Mexicans here if the Americans tear down the whole city in their mining operations. It was about a year ago that an American mining man discovered that the adobe blocks which were used in the construction of the buildings in the older part of the town contained much gold and silver. He purchased all the houses in that part of town and extracted the precious metals from the walls. Of course, he had to tear down the houses to do this. It is said that the American cleaned up a neat fortune by his unique stroke of enterprise.

# GIVES RING TO MUSEUM.

Bequest Commemorates the Hero of Tripoli Exploit.

Washington.—The United States national museum has just received as a bequest from the late Stephen Decatur Smith through his son, S. Decatur Smith, Jr., of Philadelphia, a plain gold ring, formerly the property of Commodore Stephen Decatur, given him by his fellow officer, Richard Somers, at Tripoli, in 1804.

In the brilliant war against the pirates of Tripoli, who for years had preyed upon American commerce and had succeeded in capturing the American ship Philadelphia, Commodore Preble fitted the intrepid as a bomb vessel to explode in the midst of the Tripolitan fleet and cause a panic, and on the night of September 4, 1804, dispatched it on its mission in charge of Richard Somers. When it

was within 500 yards of the enemy they opened fire, a premature explosion occurred and Somers with his volunteer crew were never heard of afterwards.

An inscription on the ring reads: "Tripoli, 1804," and inside are the initials of the various owners with dates.

# Finds Diamonds in Quebec.

Toronto, Ont.—Uncut diamonds worth more than \$8,000 were seen and examined the other day at the home of John A. Mackenzie's sister on University avenue.

Mackenzie who says he has discovered a diamond field on the Notaway river in Quebec, about 400 miles north of here, refuses to indicate its exact locality, but considers the fields vastly richer than the South African mines. He was once a diamond miner at Kimberley.